

**REPORT/RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
OF SAN BERNARDINO COUNTY, CALIFORNIA
AND RECORD OF ACTION**

61

FEBRUARY 15, 2005

FROM: KEITH GORDON, M.D., Interim Director
Department of Behavioral Health (DBH)

**SUBJECT: PROPOSITION 63 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) PROGRAM
PLANNING FUNDING REQUEST TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL
HEALTH**

RECOMMENDATION: Approve submission of the Proposition 63 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Program Planning funding request to the state Department of Mental Health in the amount of \$557,746 for the period January 1, 2005 through June 30, 2005.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: Approval of this item will allow the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) to submit a Program Planning funding request to the State Department of Mental Health for Proposition 63 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA).

The MHSA, passed by voters on November 2, 2004 as Proposition 63, establishes a state personal income tax surcharge of 1 percent on the portion of taxpayers' annual taxable income that exceeds \$1 million. It provides funding to expand mental health services in the following areas: Community Program Planning, Community Services and Supports, Capital Facilities and Technology, Education and Training Programs, Prevention and Early Intervention Programs, Innovative Programs

It is the responsibility of the State Department of Mental Health (DMH), in coordination with other state agencies, to establish the requirements and implementation process for each of the above areas through the initial funding plan phase. San Bernardino County has been allocated \$557,746 for this phase. The deadline for application is March 15, 2005.

To receive funding, the County must demonstrate the planning process to be used to "develop the plan" for the Community Services and Supports component. The purpose of Community Program Planning is to develop the structure and process the County will use, in partnership with stakeholders, to determine the unmet need for mental health services which will in turn determine how best to designate funds that will become available for the MHSA Community Services and Supports component. The planning process must demonstrate meaningful involvement of consumers and families as full partners. The MHSA requires that the perspective and participation of those suffering from severe mental illness and their family members be a significant factor in the decision making process. In addition, the planning process must include stakeholders such as law enforcement agencies, providers of services, education, and social services agencies.

Record of Action of the Board of Supervisors Page 1 of 2

61

The County's Community Program Plan provides for coordination of all aspects of the planning process which includes community outreach needs assessment and an active discussion with consumers, providers and other stakeholders. The program plan design includes all the required elements encompassing on-going meaningful dialog with consumers and their families to obtain their input and maintain their involvement, locating underserved consumers through outreach, collaboration with partner agencies and advocacy groups, and linkages with community based organizations. The plan provides for stipends, transportation and childcare for consumer participants who will serve as liaisons to underserved and unserved communities.

It is estimated that the planning process will take a total of nine months to complete under the direction of two half-time consultant coordinators and a half-time administrative coordinator. Additional staff needed to work for six-months of the nine month planning period include two Staff Analyst II, one Statistical Methods Analyst, two Clerk III, and two Outreach & Training Coordinators. All these positions will be funded by the Proposition 63 funds. These positions will be PSE/Contract positions.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL BY OTHERS: This Contract has been reviewed and approved as to form by Deputy County Counsel, Charles J. Larkin (387-5433), on February 8, 2005. The County Mental Health Commission reviewed this item on February 3, 2005. The County Administrative Office Bea Valdez, Administrative Analyst (388-0211), reviewed this item on February 7, 2005.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: Approval of this item will not impose any County local cost and will allow DBH to seek planning funds in the amount of \$557,746. All funds for this program plan will come from the Proposition 63 Mental Health Services Act. If planning funds are awarded, DBH will come back to the Board for an increase in appropriations, revenues and positions.

COST REDUCTION REVIEW: The County Administrative Office has reviewed this agenda item and recommends approval as it will impose no local cost to the County.

SUPERVISORIAL DISTRICT (S): All

PRESENTER: Keith Gordon, M.D., Interim Director
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